Monday April 15, 2019

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## Strong storms in U.S. South kill at least 8 and injure dozens

#### By The Associated Press

Powerful storms swept across the South on Sunday after unleashing suspected tornadoes and flooding that killed at least eight people, injured dozens and flattened much of a Texas town. Three children were among the dead. Nearly 90,000 customers were without electricity in Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Georgia as of midday Sunday, according to www.poweroutage.us as the severe weather left a trail of destruction.

Two children were killed on a back road in East Texas when a pine tree fell onto the car in which they were riding in a severe thunderstorm Saturday near Pollok, about 150 miles (241 kilometers) southeast of Dallas.

The tree "flattened the car like a pancake," said Capt. Alton Lenderman of the Angelina County Sheriff's Office. The children, ages 8 and 3, were dead at the scene, while both parents, who were in the front seat, escaped injury, he said.





Roman Brown moves part of a wall out of his way as he looks for a friends medicine in their destroyed home along Seely Drive outside of Hamilton, Miss. after a storm moved through the area on Sunday, April 14, 2019.

**Associated Press** 









## Trump sanctuary city idea could help migrants stay in U.S.

#### By ASTRID GALVAN and **MORGAN LEE Associated Press**

PHOENIX (AP) — An idea floated by President Donald Trump to send immigrants from the border to "sanctuary cities" to exact revenge on Democratic foes could end up doing the migrants a favor by placing them in locations that make it easier to put down roots and stay in the country.

The plan would put thousands of immigrants in cities that are not only welcoming to them, but also more likely to rebuff federal officials carrying out deportation orders. Many of these locations have more resources to help immigrants make their legal cases to stay in the United States than smaller cities, with some of the nation's biggest immigration advocacy groups based in places like San Francisco, New York City and Chicago. The downside for the immigrants would be a high cost of living in the cities.

The Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University nounced this week that an analysis found that immigrants in sanctuary cities such as New York and Los Angeles are 20% less likely community than in cities without such policies.

"With immigrants being less likely to commit crimes than the U.S.-born population, and with sanctuary jurisdictions being safer and more productive than non-sanctuary jurisdictions, the data damns this proposal as a



In this April 5, 2019 photo, President Donald Trump participates in a roundtable on immigration and border security at the U.S. Border Patrol Calexico Station in Calexico, Calif.

politically motivated stunt that seeks to play politics with peoples' lives," said George Gascon, district attorney for San Francisco.

Trump has grown increasingly frustrated over the situation at the border, where tens of thousands of immigrant families are crossing each month, many to claim asylum. His administration has attempted several efforts to stop the flow, and he recently shook up the top ranks of the Department of Homeland Security. to be arrested out in the The idea to ship immigrants to Democratic strongholds cent months, but the White House and Department of Homeland Security said the plan had been rejected. But Trump said Friday he was still considering the

change our very dangerous immigration laws, we are indeed, as reported, giving strong considerations to placing Illegal Immigrants in Sanctuary Cities only," Trump tweeted. He added that, "The Radical Left always seems to have an Open Borders, Open Arms policy - so this should make them very happy!"

Asked about the proposal Sunday, White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said it was "not the ideal solution."

"The president heard the was considered twice in re- ABC's "This Week," adding that it is among several options being reviewed by the White House. "The president likes the idea and Democrats have said they want these individuals into idea. "Due to the fact that their communities so let's Democrats are unwilling to see if it works and every-

body gets a win out of it." She said she hopes Democrats will work with the president on a comprehensive immigration bill.

**Associated Press** 

Romero, 27, was separated from his daughter, now 7, by federal authorities at the U.S. border at El Paso, Texas, last year and jailed for three months before being released and making his way to live with his mother in San Jose, California. There he was reunited with his daughter, who attends public kindergarten.

out worry of discrimination. His daughter has made friends and has playdates with the children of Mexican American families. It's a far cry from his hometown in the violence-plagued outskirts of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, that he fled after

his brother-in-law was killed. To him, the biggest problem with being in the Bay Area is the high cost of living. The former textile factory worker relies on his mother's income from waitressing for food and clothing, and he's started thinking about asking legal permission to move to North Carolina, where an uncle resides and says it's cheaper to live and work.

"To tell the truth, it's a little tight now, financially speaking," said Romero, a former textile factory worker, who said he doesn't know of any charities that may be willing to help.

The plan discussed by Trump would also have financial, logistical and legal

The transportation of immigrants who are arrested at the border to large and faraway cities would be burdensome and costly at a time when Immigration and Customs Enforcement is already stretched thin, having released over 125,000 immigrants into the country pending their immigration court since Dec. 21. They are currently being released mainly in border states.

Flights chartered by ICE cost about \$7,785 per flight hour, according to the Romero says he goes about agency, and require multiidea, he likes it," she told daily errands in public with- ple staffers, including an inflight medical professional. The agency also uses commercial flights. Doing longer transports would increase liability for the agency, especially considering that many of the immigrants in its care are families with young children.



## U.S. NEWS A3 MONDAY 15 APRIL 2019



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## Strong storms in U.S. South kill at least 8 and injure dozens

#### **Continued from Front**

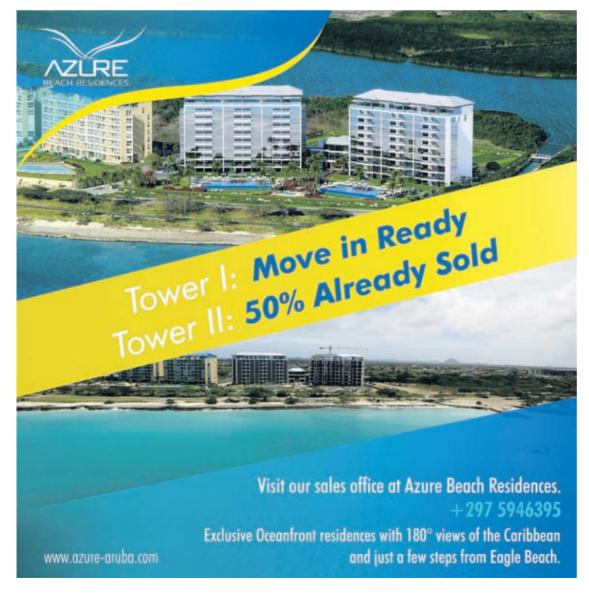
At least one person was killed and about two dozen others were injured after a suspected tornado struck the Caddo Mounds State Historic Site in East Texas during a Native American cultural event in Alto, about 130 miles (209 kilometers) southeast of Dallas. Cherokee County Judge Chris Davis said the fatality that was reported was of a woman who died of her critical injuries.

In neighboring Houston County, the sheriff's office



A roof a home that was blown off a home rests on the ground in Hamilton, Miss., after a deadly storm moved through the area Sunday, April 14, 2019.

**Associated Press** 



said one person was killed in Weches, 6 miles southwest of Caddo Mound.

There was widespread damage in Alto, a town of about 1,200, and the school district canceled classes until its buildings can be deemed safe.

A tornado flattened much of the south side of Franklin, Texas, overturning mobile homes and damaging other residences, said Robertson County Sheriff Gerald Yezak. Franklin is about 125 miles (200 kilometers) south of Dallas. The weather service said preliminary information showed an EF-3 tornado touched down with winds of 140 mph (225.3 kph). It destroyed 55 homes, a church, four businesses, a duplex, and part of the local housing authority building, authorities said. Two people were hospitalized for injuries that were not thought to be lifethreatening, while others were treated at the scene, Yezak said. Some people had to be extricated from damaged dwellings.

Heavy rains and storms raked Mississippi into the night Saturday as the storms moved east. Roy Ratliff, 95, died after a tree crashed onto his trailer in northeastern Mississippi, Monroe County Road Manager Sonny Clay said at a news conference, adding that a tornado had struck. Nineteen residents were taken to hospitals, including two in critical condition. A tornado was reported in the area 140 miles (225 kilometers) southeast of Memphis, Tennessee, at the time. In Hamilton, Mississippi,

72-year-old Robert Scott said he had been sleeping in his recliner late Saturday when he was awakened and found himself in his yard after a tornado ripped most of his home off its foundation.

His 71-year-old wife, Linda, was in a different part of the house and also survived, he said. They found each other while crawling through the remnants of the house they have lived in since 1972.

"We're living, and God has blessed us," Scott, a retired manager for a grocery store meat department, said Sunday as neighbors helped him salvage his belongings.

National Weather Service meteorologist John Moore said a possible twister touched down in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, area. No injuries were reported, but officials reported damage to several businesses and vehicles. The storm damaged a roof of a hotel in New Albany, Mississippi, and Mississippi State University's 21,000 students huddled in basements and hallways as a tornado neared the campus in Starkville.

University spokesman Sid Salter said some debris, possibly carried by the tornado, was found on campus, but no injuries were reported and no buildings were damaged. Trees were toppled and minor damage was reported in residential areas east of the campus. The large storm system also caused flash floods in Louisiana, where two deaths were reported.



## Dems defend Omar after Trump retweets video against her

Democrats on Saturday rushed to defend Rep. IIhan Omar after President Donald Trump retweeted video that was edited to suggest she was being dismissive of the significance of the worst terrorist assault on U.S. soil.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi scolded Trump for using the "painful images of 9/11 for a political attack" against the first-term Minnesota Democrat.

And presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren, campaigning in New Hampshire, accused Trump of "trying to incite violence and to divide us, and every political leader should speak out against that."

The video Trump retweeted Friday pulls a snippet of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in which and includes news footage

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Top Omar's recent speech to Trade Center as "some people did something,"



In this March 6, 2019, file photo, Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., sits with fellow Democrats on the House Education and Labor Committee during a bill markup, on Capitol Hill in Washington. **Associated Press** 

she described the 2001 ter- of the hijacked planes hitrorist attack on the World ting the Twin Towers. Trump

**NEVER FORGET!"** 

Omar's remark has drawn criticism largely from political opponents and conservatives who say the lawmaker, one of the first Muslim women to serve in Congress, offered a flippant description of the assailants and the attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people.

Neither Trump's tweet nor the video included her full quote or the context of her comments.

Omar told CAIR in Los Anaeles that many Muslims saw their civil liberties eroded after the attacks, and she advocated for activ-

"For far too long we have lived with the discomfort of being a second-class citizen and, frankly, I'm tired of it, and every single Muslim in this country should be tired of it," she said in the March 23 speech, according to video posted online. "CAIR was founded after 9/11 because they recognized that some people did something and that all of us were starting to lose access to our civil liberties." CAIR was founded in 1994, according to its website, but its membership skyrocketed after the attacks.

Many Republicans and conservative outlets expressed outrage at Omar's remarks. Fellow Democrats, including some who have disagreed with Omar in the past, defended her.

"First Member of Congress to ever describe terrorists who killed thousands 'some people who did something," tweeted Rep. Dan Crenshaw, R-Texas. The retired Navy SEAL lost his right eye in 2012 in an explosion in Afghanistan.

"Here's your something," the New York Post blared on its cover beneath a

also tweeted, "WE WILL photograph of the flaming towers. Pelosi, who was in Germany visiting U.S. troops Saturday, said in a statement that "the memory of 9/11 is sacred ground" and should always be discussed "with reverence." The California Democrat said it is wrong for Trump to "fan the flames to make anyone less safe."

> Omar didn't appear to be backing down.

> She tweeted a quote from President George W. Bush, who said days after the attacks: "The people — and the people who knocked these buildings down will hear all of us soon!"

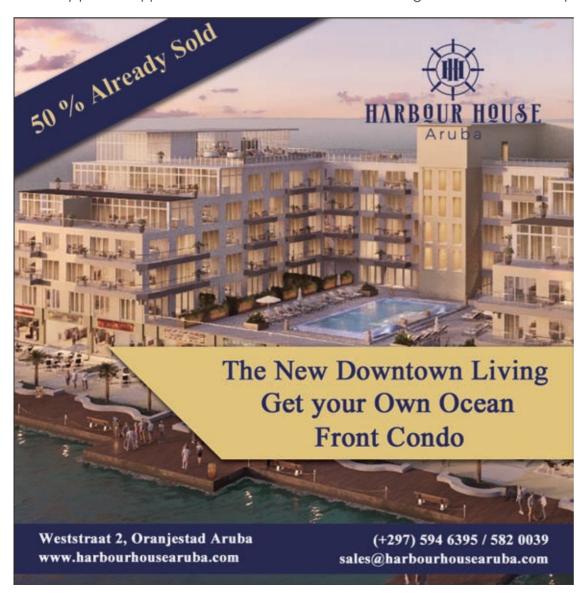
> "Was Bush downplaying the terrorist attack?" Omar tweeted. "What if he was a Muslim."

> Several of the 2020 Democratic presidential candidates condemned Trump's tweet.

> Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, said the Republican president's tweet was an "incitement to violence" against Omar, who is Muslim-American, and others like her. O'Rourke, campaigning in South Carolina, likened the tweet to Trump's rhetoric about Mexicans, described in the past by Trump as murderers and rapists. O'Rourke said "there is a cost and there is a consequence" to Trump's comments.

Warren, a Massachusetts senator, said Republican leaders in Congress "cannot take a pass on this, cannot look the other way and pretend it isn't happening. of Americans on 9/11 as It is happening. And those who don't speak out in the Republican leadership are complicit in what he is doing. It's wrong."

> Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar noted that a New York man recently was charged with threatening Omar's





## As census approaches, many Arab Americans feel left out

## By JOSEPH GEDEON Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Yousuf Abdelfatah already knows the answer he'll give about his race on the 2020 census questionnaire will be wrong.

He's an Arab American, but the only race options on the census are white, black, Asian and categories for American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander. Reluctantly, Abdelfatah will mark white.

"If you look at me, my skin is darker, I'm visibly not white," said the 22-year-old research assistant. "I've lived my life as a person of color, but I'm categorized as white."

With the census going to printing presses later this year, Arab Americans are again feeling left out of a process that helps draw the nation's political map and provide an accurate population count, which in turn can determine how much federal funding minority groups get for government programs and medical research.

Organizations have long been pushing for a separate Middle Eastern or North African category but realize it's probably too late for 2020 with questionnaires ready to be printed. "The census is in our Constitution and it's meant to count everyone," said Maya Berry, the executive director of the Arab American Institution.

According to census estimates, the Arab American population is measured at just over 2 million people. The Arab American Institute, however, says that number is closer to 3.6 million. Underreporting from the census has come amid a rapid growth of the community, which advocates say has increased by more than 72% between 2000 and 2010.

Population data is a key factor in political redistricting, researching human rights, monitoring government programs and anti-



In this April 8, 2019 photo, Naia Al-Anbar stands on a street in the Glendale section of Los Angeles.

Associated Press

discrimination laws, meaning Arab Americans are subject to a lack of representation and health and social services.

"Right now we have that 'white' designation on paper but we don't benefit from it," said 24-year-old activist and organizer Naia Al-Anbar. "The truth is we aren't ever going to be white in their eyes and we will still be discriminated against."

Al-Anbar, who generally supports the idea of a new category, has a Saudi Arabian father and would mark "other" on the census if a more precise category isn't offered.

The Arab American Institute considers 22 countries to consist of Arabs, spanning Africa and Asia, meaning Arab Americans can fall into several categories provided in the survey.

This creates an odd decision during the census for Arab Americans. Does someone from Egypt, for example, check the African American box because their home country is in Africa? Would someone from Iraq be expected to mark that they are Asian? "As an Egyptian, I considered marking 'African American' but I'm not black," 24-year-old Nashville resident Dina El-Rifai

said. "However, marking 'white' doesn't reflect who I am or the diversity I bring." In another complicating factor, the Trump administration wants to ask people whether they are American citizens on the census — an issue that is supposed to be resolved by the U.S. Supreme Court this summer before the forms are printed. Some fear that will stifle participation among various immigrant groups, especially in the aftermath of the administration's travel ban from Muslim countries that spread fear among Arab Americans.

This question would discourage 30% of Arab Americans from taking the survey, a study by the American-Arab Anti-Defamation Committee found.

The Arab American Institute and other groups have worked on getting an Arab category introduced in the census for decades but have always been met with opposition. That was until 2009, when the Census Bureau concluded that it would introduce a Middle Eastern and North African category for the next cvcle after years of trials and tests. Test results found that the vast majority of Arab Americans supported the issue and would mark the new option on the census.

But the momentum came to a halt when a new executive government was voted in to power.

"After all that work, and all the millions spent, the Trump administration came in for what we believe are political reasons to put an end to it," said Samer Khalaf, president of the American-Arab Anti-Defamation Committee. "Their reasoning was that additional testing would be required."

The Census Bureau did not comment about the Middle Eastern category, but pointed to previous news conferences where policy leaders discussed how more research was needed to include a Middle Eastern/North African category not as a race, but as an ethnicity.

"We do feel that more research and testing is needed before we can proceed to implement or propose to implement a separate Middle Eastern or North African category," Census Bureau chief of Population Karen Battle said at a program review in January 2018.

That would be a step in the right direction for many Arab Americans, as it could lead to a better count and more research and federal funding to benefit their communities.











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## GOP states discover a tax hike they have to like: for roads

#### By DAVID EGGERT **Associated Press**

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — After passing waves of tax cuts in recent years, some lawmakers in several Republican-dominated states have decided it's time to make a big exception and are pushing for tax increases to fix roads that are crumbling from years of ne-

In the past month alone, the Republican governors of Ohio, Alabama and Arkansas have signed fuel tax hikes. Meanwhile, proposed increases are being considered by three legislatures that are fully or partly GOP-controlled, including a whopping 45-cents-agallon hike in Michigan.

The moves show a growing willingness in conservative places to take on the fearsome politics of higher taxes, at least for infrastructure. Republicans who otherwise support lower taxes are acknowledging that cutting government spending elsewhere in the budget won't cover the cost of repairing the many miles of potholed roads and creaky bridaes.

"It's going to take \$2.5 billion a year," said Detroit Regional Chamber CEO Sandy Baruah of Michigan's road-building needs. "Anyone who thinks you can cut even half of that out of other elements of While the state budget without having significant ramifications to real people, you're smoking something that's not legal."

Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer won election last year after running on



In a Friday, April 12, 2019, photo, Interstate Highway 75 construction continues in Troy, Mich. **Associated Press** 

the slogan "Fix the Damn Roads." Her plan would gradually add 45 cents to the cost of a gallon of gas by October 2020, which would be more than double the current 26-centsper-gallon gas tax and make it the highest in the country. GOP legislative leaders have dismissed the proposed hike as way too much, but they are leaving open the prospect of passing a more modest increase in the face of intense pressure from the business community.In some states, Republican-leaning interests have become the biggest backers of higher taxes for this purpose, which is seen as necessary for economic development.

consumers acutely conscious of prices at the pump, legislators are struggling to get around the difficult realities of the fuel surcharge that funds transportation projects. They are also facing the echoes of the tax cut

promises they made in winning over many heartland states in the last decade — that getting tougher on spending wouldn't mean worse services.

In most states, the excise tax rate per gallon is fixed and doesn't rise with inflation. And the federal gas tax has remained unchanged since 1993. Meanwhile, consumers are driving more fuel-efficient vehicles or are driving less, depressing revenue. The real purchasing power of the federal gas tax has fallen by 40% over the past quarter-century, and repair costs rise significantly when roads decline to a rating of poor or worse. This winter, Michigan's Department of Transportation had to close 10 miles of Interstate 75 in suburban Detroit — one of the state's most heavily trafficked stretches — because of vehicle damage from cracks and potholes.

In Ohio, new Gov. Mike DeWine, a Republican who

attacked his opponent in the 2018 campaign as a tax-friendly Democrat, this month signed off on a 10.5-cent gas tax increase and a 19-cent diesel tax hike. Republican Govs. Kay Ivey of Alabama and Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas last month signed increases that were their states' first in decades, of 10 cents and 3 cents respectively. And the GOP-led General Assembly in Virginia this month voted to add 7 cents a gallon in some parts of the state. which was a win for Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam. Fuel tax increases also are under consideration in Wisconsin and Minnesota, where power is divided between the parties.

The state plans pay little heed to President Donald Trump's latest proposal for \$200 billion in federal infrastructure spending. An earlier plan died in Congress and was heavily dependent on state and local funding, though House

Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Trump talked this month about working together on an infrastructure package. In Michigan, the roads have become a state joke. Contests are held to find the worst pothole. An ice cream made by a Shelby Township company is called the "Michigan Pot Hole."

A 12-year-old Muskegon Heights boy recently attracted attention on local TV and social media for filling the ankle-deep pits on his street with dirt.

Three years ago, the Republican-led Legislature approved a \$1.2 billion road plan that raised fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees, and was heavily dependent on shifting income tax revenue from an account that covers health care, higher education and other funding areas. But the effect was limited and Whitmer warns that without additional investment, the percentage of state-owned highways that are rated poor will double in five years, to 44%. Local streets are worse.

At a recent GOP meeting in Grand Rapids, Republican state Rep. Lynn Afendoulis said many of her colleagues first want to look into redirecting other state spending to roads and to see the 2015 laws fully implemented. A number of Republicans hope to dedicate Michigan's sales tax on motor fuel to the transportation budget, but they have not detailed how that would be done without slicing funding for schools and municipalities.



## Nevada may be forced to reveal marijuana-license criteria

**By KEN RITTER Associated Press** 

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Nevada faces complaints about secrecy in awarding licenses to sell marijuana in the state's booming legal marketplace, boiling over into lawsuits and legislation that appear poised to pry open the process.

Several companies have sued the state tax department, arguing that no one knows for sure the criteria officials use to award new licenses.

They complain the state releases no information about who seeks and receives permission to sell cannabis to adults, many of them tourists, in the nearly 2-year-old market.

They will ask a judge Monday to freeze the granting of marijuana dispensary licenses, at least temporarilv, until the courts decide whether it's "arbitrary and capricious and violates the constitution," one lawsuit says.

The hearing will focus on a second wave of dispensaries approved in December to open into an evolving regulatory environment where local lawmakers are considering allowing pot lounges on or near the Las Vegas Strip.

The companies say Neunconstitutionally picked winners and losers from 462 applicants for 61 new dispensary, cultivation, laboratory and production licenses.

"Licenses that admit a select few to such a lucrative enterprise must be made in a way that is open and transparent," said attorney Vincent Savarese, who wrote the constitutional challenge on behalf of Serenity Wellness Center and 10 other companies that were turned away.

"The point is to remove the Monday's court hearing in marijuana trade from criminal enterprises, cartels and mobsters and street dealers, and to ensure that they don't have participation in the legal marijuana industry," he said.

The court arguments come days after the state Sen-

ate unanimously passed a measure to let officials release taxpayer information now labeled confidential. The proposal heads next to the Assembly.

Plans are underway to release the names of all applicants and licensees once the measure becomes law, said Ky Plaskon, spokesman for the state Department of Taxation, which regulates the licensing process.

Gov. Steve Sisolak on Friday acknowledged "the frustrations of many marijuana license applicants with the current licensing process" and endorsed the legislation that he said "would shed light on the methodology used ... in granting licenses."

Sisolak, a Democrat, was elected last November while calling for a state marijuana regulatory program similar to the Nevada Gaming Control Board, which regulates casino licensing. He has an advisory panel studying the formation of a Cannabis Compliance Board.

Hundreds of millions of dollars are at stake, and figures show that sales are booming.

In the first year after broad marijuana sales began in July 2017, 61 dispensaries statewide reported nearly \$425 million in recreational pot sales. Medical marijuana sales totaled an additional \$105 million.

Nevada reaped \$42.5 million in taxes on adult sales, with about \$27.5 million going to an account for schools.

In the last six months of 2018, all dispensaries reported \$884 million in sales and the state took in almost \$72 million in taxes on recreational sales, Plaskon said. There are now 65 marijuana stores statewide.

Clark County District Court is expected to draw attornevs involved in six lawsuits filed against the state Taxation Department on behalf of dozens of companies.

"I'm not saying anybody corruptly got a license," Savarese said.

"But I'm saying that if they had, the process is opaque enough to provide cover for it."

His 11 clients already won some dispensary licenses in 2017, after Nevada voters in 2016 approved broad access to cannabis, and are seeking more.



In this April 20, 2018, file photo, a customer shops for marijuana at the Exhale Nevada dispensary in Las Vegas.

**Associated Press** 









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## Pope Francis blesses palm branches as he ushers in Holy Week

#### By FRANCES D'EMILIO **Associated Press**

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis warned against being judgmental and too full of oneself, including authorities in the Catholic church, in his Palm Sunday homily during Mass in St. Peter's Square, which was crowded with tens of thousands of pilgrims, tourists and Romans. The day ushers in Holy Week, which will include Way of the Cross processions around the world to commemorate the Passion, or suffering, of Jesus on Good Friday and his death by crucifixion.

Palm Sunday services recall the cries and gestures of triumph by onlookers when Jesus entered Jerusalem. But not long after, according to the New Testament, the public's mood changed, and Jesus was arrested, mocked, scourged and executed.

"Festive acclamations and brutal torture: the silence of



Pope Francis holds a palm frond as he celebrates a Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Jesus throughout his Passion is profoundly impressive," Francis said in his homily.

cautioned pope against the temptation of "triumphalism," which he said feeds itself by "looking askance at others and ten systematic cover-ups

constantly judging them inferior, wanting, failures." The Catholic church in the last decades has been rocked by revelations of pedophilia and other sex abuse by clergy and ofof that by its hierarchy. The scandals have engulfed

**Associated Press** 

even bishops and cardinals and shaken the trust of countless rank-and-file faithful in the church. Sprinkling holy water, Francis

blessed palm fronds and

olive branches clutched by pilgrims, tourists and Romans before Mass began. He watched from steps at the foot of the obelisk in the center of the square as prelates, holding dried, braided palms, formed a circle around him. Then, cradling a braided palm, he joined a solemn procession to a canopied altar set up outside St. Peter's Basilica. Francis also invited people to pray for peace, especially in the Holy Land and the Middle East.

By the end of Mass, sunshine gave way to a soft, light rain and the crowd had swelled to 50,000 people, according to security officials. Francis, after removing his red robes, was driven in his white popemobile so he could wave to the crowd. Holy Week culminates in joyous celebrations on Easter Sunday as Christians celebrate their belief that Jesus rose from the dead.

## Albanian opposition clashes with police in anti-govt protest

By LLAZAR SEMINI **Associated Press** TIRANA, Albania (AP) — Albanian opposition parties

rallied Saturday in Tirana, calling for the Socialist government to resign and for the country to hold an early parliamentary election. Some protesters tried to storm the parliament building, but police responded with tear gas and water cannon.

supporters from around the country showed up at Tirana's main Martyrs of the Nation boulevard holding anti-government posters and slogans, throwing

Thousands of opposition flares, firecrackers and oth-



An opposition protester wears a mask depicting Albanian prime minister Edi Rama during an anti-government rally in Tirana, Albania, Saturday, April 13, 2019.

**Associated Press** 

er projectiles at police. Protesters broke through the police cordon at the main entrance of the government building, but did not try to open its doors. Police refrained from using tear gas at the government building but used it when demonstrators tried to storm at the parliament building. Scores of protesters stayed at the building stairs, shouting slogans against the prime minister. Demonstrators more than two hours in front of the parliament continuously throwing hard objects and firecrackers. A car parked nearby was put on fire. Police called on them to remain calm and launched many tear gas bombs.  $\square$ 



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## Social Democrats, populists top Finland vote ahead of EU's

#### By JARI TANNER **DOROTHEE THIESING Associated Press**

**HELSINKI** (AP) — Finland's Social Democratic Party won the most votes in the parliamentary country's election Sunday, trailed closely by a populist party that campaigned on ensuring the government does not overdo its efforts to combat climate change.

A near complete vote count late Sunday gave the Social Democrats 40 seats in Finland's 200-member parliament, and the euroskeptic, anti-immigration Finns Party 39 seats. The election was watched for signs of how a populist bloc might do in next month's European Parliament elec-



Chairman of the Green League Pekka Haavisto, Chairman of The Centre Party Juha Sipila, Chairman of the National Coalition Party Petteri Orpo, Chairman of the Finns Party Jussi Halla-aho and Chairman of The Social Democratic Party Antti Rinne stand at the Little Parliament building, in Helsinki, Finland, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

#### **Associated Press**

alliance of populist parties that aims to become the strongest faction in the Eu-The Finns Party is part of an ropean Union legislature and to radically transform EU policies on migration, security, family and environment.

"I have to make a honest confession: I hoped still for a better result," Social Democratic Party leader Antti Rinne, a former finance minister and union leader, said at an election night party in central Helsinki. "Let us, my friends, take the Finnish society toward sustainable climate, social and economic policies."

The near-complete tally from Sunday's election gave the conservative National Coalition Party 37 seats and outgoing Prime Minister Juha Sipila's Center Party 31.

The Center Party lost more support than any other party compared to Finland's last election in 2015, apparently punished by voters for failing while in government to push through an ambitious health care and social care reform plan.

Finnish Institute of International Affairs program director Mika Aaltola said voters putting their support behind comparative political upstarts produced "a historic result" in Finland

that reflects disenchantment with mainstream politics across Europe.

"Support for the three traditional established parties has been down for years. The political center is weakening, which is an overall European phenomenon," Aaltola wrote on Twitter.

The election followed a campaign in which conabout climate change even overshadowed the issue of how to reform the nation's generous welfare model.

Finland, a European Union member of 5.5 million people, has one-third of its territory above the Arctic Circle. Most political parties support government actions to curb global warming.

Pre-election policy debates over what and how much the Nordic country should do revealed disagreement among voters.

The Finns Party railed against public sacrifices in the name of fighting climate change. It put less focus on immigration than anti-migrant, euroskeptic counterparts elsewhere in Europe have done in recent years.

"For everybody, it's about the climate. It's kind of a climate election. Everybody's feeling some kind of a depression about it," voter Sofia Frantsi, 27, an interior architect from Helsinki, told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Voters chose between 2,500 candidates from 19 political parties and movements for the Eduskunta legislature's 200 seats.

The party with the most votes typically tries to a new government with other parties as partners. A Cabinet made up of ministers from different political parties is a long-time tradition in Fin-

opposition Democratic Party, which has traditionally attracted working-class voters, favors raising taxes and increasing spending to overhaul a costly Nordic social and health care system that is under strain with one of the most rapidly aging populations worldwide.

The Social Democrats also back the pro-European Union policies of Finland, which uses the shared euro currency but is not a NATO member. Finland shares a 1,340-kilometer (830-mile) border with Russia.

Rural voters and other residents who feel that the climate change plans of other leading parties require too much sacrifice have been part of the momentum of the populist Finns Party.

"We want a more moderate and sensible climate policy that does not chase industries away from Finland to countries like China," party chairman Hallaaho said Sunday at a Helsinki polling station.

Immigration remains a key policy issue, Halla-aho said. Greenpeace **Finland** called Sunday's vote the "climate election," saying that "never before has climate and the limits of planet Earth been discussed with such seriousness in Finland."

The environmental group cited a recent nationwide poll in which 70% of respondents said tacklina climate change and reducing carbon footprints should be key priorities of the new government.

Finland is boosting its production of nuclear energy by launching a new nuclear power plant next year. Finnish lawmakers last month voted to phase out burning coal as an energy source to end it by 2029.





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## Philippines: US DNA tests confirm death of IS-linked leader

By JIM GOMEZ **Associated Press** 

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

- U.S. DNA tests have confirmed the death of a Muslim militant commander who helped lead the 2017 siege of a city in the southern Philippines and was considered a key leader of the Islamic State group in the region, officials said Sunday.

Interior Secretary ardo Ano said the tests confirmed that Owaida Marohombsar, who was also known by his nom de guerre Abu Dar, was one of four militants killed in a March 14 gunbattle that also left four soldiers dead near southern Tubaran town in Lanao del Sur province. The Philippine military asked U.S. authorities to confirm Marohombsar's death through DNA tests.

Marohombsar helped lead the May 23, 2017, siege of Marawi, which troops quelled after five months of ground assaults and airstrikes that left more than 1,100 people, mostly mili-



In this Monday, Oct. 23, 2017 file photo, Philippine Armed Forces Chief Gen. Eduardo Ano gestures prior to the start of the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting in Clark, Pampanga province north of Manila, Philippines. **Associated Press** 

commercial and residential districts.

Most leaders of the attack were killed, but Marohombsar survived with a large amount of looted cash and tants, dead and destroyed jewelry from Marawi that Marawi with at least 30 mil-

the mosque-studded city's authorities feared he could use to rebuild the militant's battered organization and plot new attacks. One regional official, Zia Adiong, said at the time that Ma-

lion pesos (\$566,000) in stolen money.

But troops hunted the extremist leader and his men down across Lanao.

"This is another milestone in rohombsar escaped from our campaign to finish and defeat ISIS and local terror groups in the country," Ano said, using an acronym of the Islamic State group.

Ano was the former military chief who supervised the U.S.- and Australianbacked offensive to crush the siege of Marawi, which sparked fears that the Islamic State group was advancing its efforts to establish a foothold in the region. Marohombsar's killing will make it harder for the Islamic State group to establish a firm presence in the country's south, Ano said. The southern Philippines is the homeland of the largely Roman Catholic nation's minority Muslims and the scene of decades-old Muslim separatist unrest.

"For now, his group is leaderless. We are monitoring who will replace Dar," Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters.

A Philippine army brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Romeo Brawner, said troops would pursue the rest of Marohombsar's remaining fighters, mostly based in Lanao's hinterlands, not far from Marawi.

## Japan's PM visits Fukushima nuke plant in revival message



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaks to the media after Abe visited Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant in Okuma, Fukushima prefecture, Japan, Sunday, April 14,

**Associated Press** 

#### **Associated Press**

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Sunday visited the Fukushima nuclear plant. which sank into meltdowns after a tsunami eight years ago, in an effort to highlight revival and safety as the nation prepares to host the and northeastern Japan." 2020 Olympics.

The visit by Abe, who last went to the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant five years ago, was seen as damage control after Yoshitaka Sakurada, a ruling party minister overseeing the Olympics, resigned for a re-

mark appearing to belittle reconstruction in northeastern Japan.

"Our basic policy is that every minister is a reconstruction minister," Abe said during his visit. "We work for the revival of Fukushima

Abe wore a business suit as he was shown around the plant — a contrast to the special head-to-toe suit and mask visitors had to wear five years ago, reflecting progress with the cleanup.

He also visited a soccer facility

called J-Village, which temporarily served as a place for workers dealing with the plant accident. A giant tsunami in March 2011 set off meltdowns at three of Fukushireaffirmed our commitment to ma Dai-ichi's reactors, the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl. As many as 160,000 people evacuated the area, although some have since returned.

> Earlier Sunday, Abe visited Okuma, one of two towns that house the plant, where an evacuation order was partially lifted earlier this month.



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## Brazil to auction oil camps despite environmental warnings

#### By PETER PRENGAMAN **MAURICIO SAVARESE Associated Press**

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The administration of President Jair Bolsonaro plans to auction seven offshore oil fields in the northeast despite contrary advice from analysts of Brazil's main environmental body, according to documents obtained by the Associated Press.

Environmentalists say it's the latest example of how Bolsonaro, who campaigned on promises to revive Latin America's largest economy by cutting red tape, is pushing aside warnings and scientific evidence in the name of progress. It comes at a time when Brazil, one of the world's largest oil producers and energy consumers, is moving toward the privatization of several industries, including offshore exploration.

"There is no need to explore these areas," said Carlos Rittl, executive secretary of environmental group Climate Observatory. "This decision is in line with a government that sees the environment as an obstacle."

Brazil's environment insti-



In this Oct. 19, 2018 file photo, an environmental activist holds a sign with a message that reads in Portuguese: "Not him, because he does not care about defending nature," during a protest against then presidential frontrunner Jair Bolsonaro, in Brasilia, Brazil.

tute, called IBAMA, enforces legislation and aims to promote the sustainable the use of natural resources. IBAMA analysts recommended against the exploration of oil in seven out of 42 offshore fields originally offered for auction in March by regulating body Brazilian Petroleum Agenсу.

Three of the fields to be

auctioned in October are in the Jacuipe Basin and four in the Camamu-Almada region, both in the waters off the coast of the northeastern state of Bahia. Appointed by Bolsonaro, the new head of the institute, Eduardo Bim, rejected its analysis, which warned that exploration of "highly sensitivity areas" could lead to spills.

The study, dated March 18, also said spills could lead to the destruction of the Abrolhos islands, an area of 353 square miles (913 square kilometers). Four of Abrolhos' five islands are home to a marine national park with rare coral formations, tropical fish, whales, seabirds, turtles and dol-

phins. The dispute within IB-

AMA was first published by

**Associated Press** 

daily O Estado de S. Paulo. The documents were obtained and verified by the AP. IBAMA analysts said the blocks are in regions that have never been tapped, which require more "strategic studies that could evaluate the aptitude of the area." The document said those studies are needed to give investors "more legal protection" in the case of an accident.

The analysts also wrote that a spill could get to the coast and the island chain within two days, and authorities would not be prepared to respond quickly or adequately to protect marine life.

"Add to that the fact the impact of a spill of large proportions over mangroves and corals are in general irreversible, harming the local economy and health," the document said.

In response, Bim said in a letter to the environmental ministry, dated April 1, that he doesn't "see the need of exclusion of the (seven) fields as suggested by technical information." He did not detail why he believed it was fine to ignore the warnings.

## Migrants break border gate, force their way into Mexico

#### **Associated Press**

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican authorities said a group of about 350 migrants broke the locks on a gate at the Guatemalan border Friday and forced their way into southern Mexico to join a larger group of migrants trying to make their way toward the United States.

The National Immigration Institute did not identify the nationalities of the migrants, but they are usually from Central America.

A similar confrontation occurred on the same border



Central American migrants, part of the caravan hoping to reach the U.S. border, walk on the shoulder of a road in Frontera Hidalgo, Mexico, Friday, April 12, 2019.

**Associated Press** 

bridge between Mexico and Guatemala last year. The institute said the migrants were acting in a "hostile" and "aggressive" way, and accused them of also attacking local police in Metapa, a Mexican vil- ed States. border and the nearby city of Tapachula.

The group of 350 pushed past police guarding the bridge and joined a larger group of about 2,000 migrants who are walking toward Tapachula in the latest caravan to enter Mexico. Claudia Jaqueline Sandoval, 43, from El Progreso, Honduras, was walking toward Tapachula with her 6-year-old daughter. Another son and a daughter are already in the Unit-

lage that lies between the A group of several hundred Cuban, African and Central American migrants have been waiting at the immigration offices in Tapachula for documents that would allow them to travel to the U.S. border, where most plan to request asylum. 🔲



## **LOCAL**







#### Aruba to Me

ORANJESTAD - We would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island. Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ...... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

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Valerie and Paul Glynn from Connecticut. They send us these great pictures and wrote:

# "Aruba to us is..... Time to reconnect with family.

Aruba to us means love. The one time a year that there's no work, phone calls, emails or anything else that matters. To us Aruba also is the place my babies have grown up. They have been coming since they could even crawl or walk. I swear they grow more in the 10 days every year that we are there. Staff come over and hug my children and tell them how much they have grown since the year before. My kids know there way around the resorts and many know their names. Paul and I have been coming to Aruba for 10 years along with my parents who have been going for over 25 years.





## Experience the 3rd edition of Eat Local Food festival

ORANJESTAD- The third edition of the Food Truck Festival organized by Aruba Tourism Authority will take place on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th of April from 7PM-11PM. The event will be held at the Plaza Daniel Leo in Oranjestad. The entrance is completely free.

This year the event will have an ample variety of food such as local food, grilled/BBQ, Mexican, American, Mediterranean, Dutch and much more. Compared to prior years there will be a total of 18 trucks additional to the competition which adds to a total of 35 trucks competing. Besides the great variety of food, there will also be different food stands, vegetarian options, cigars, art pieces, beer and a coffee corner. This is a great opportunity for our visitor's to experience the local food offered at the food trucks.

Saturday April 27th, is the day we celebrate our King's Birthday and



this being last night of the food truck festival, we will be honoring our king with a so called 'Go Dutch' theme.

Here you will need to use your cre-

ativity and dress up for the occasion.

Local musicians will also be part of this event during these 2 days. They will be delighting you with music in all genres during the entire night. There will also be a 'kids corner' to entertain the kids while the parents can walk around and enjoy at the different food stands.

Due to A.T.A. main focus on a sustainable development the products used by the participants such as straws, food boxes, napkins etc. will be environmental friendly. (Biodegradable disposable)

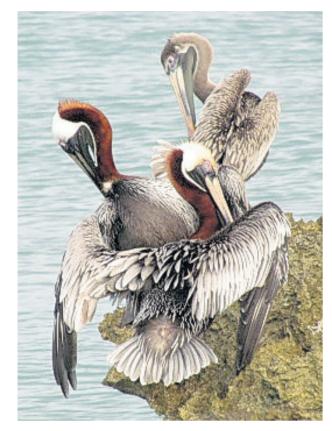
Please note that during the event the streets leading to plaza Daniel Leo will be closed partially for the traffic. This are Schelpstraat, Emmastraat, Klipstraat and Havenstraat.

The Aruba Tourism Authority would like to extend an invitation to the entire community of Aruba and also our visitors to experience this local culinary event. More information can be found on facebook 'Eat Local".



#### Birds of Aruba

#### **Brown Pelican**



A very large, dark-bodied bird, unmistakable with its long bill and gular pouch. Watch for them sitting on pilings and zooming along the beach in front of your resort. You'll probably see them feeding, too, plunging into the sea from the air, then rising with their pouch full of sea water and, if successful, a fish. Non-breeding plumage shows a white neck, and immatures are all dark with a white belly.

#### Troupial



Certainly one of most striking of Aruba's native birds, the Troupial is a large oriole with sharply contrasting bright orange and black pattern, with bright blue around the eye and at the base of the bill. The Troupial's loud, piping song is thrilling to hear. Troupials make stops at some of the resorts to look for food but they often typically don't stay for long. Take a trip to the hills of Arikok National Park to make sure you don't leave the island without a look and a listen to this special bird.

#### Blue-tailed Emerald - Blenchi



One of two hummingbird species that occurs regularly on the island, and the most common and widespread of the two. You'll undoubtedly see a few individuals of this species around your resort, frequenting blooming ornamental plantings. A good, close look will reveal a green that is brilliant, almost metallic. Males are all green with a rather short, dark blue tail that often appears black. Females and immature have green backs and whitish under parts.

#### **Burrowing Owl - Shoco**



The Burrowing Owl is a buffy-colored, long-legged owl with large, yellow eyes. This diurnal species can be seen sitting in open areas in small family groups, apparently unphased by the hot afternoon sun. Burrowing Owls are much loved by the native islanders and appear on Aruba's currency and postal stamps. Sadly, their populations seem to have declined greatly.

#### Caribbean Parakeet- Prikichi

If we go back 10 years ago, visitors of Aruba could delight at seeing flocks of native, wild parakeets roaming the countryside, sometimes coming near some of the resorts that maintain native vegetation. Unfortunately, this bird has experience steep declines in recent years, apparently due to introduced boa's. Although efforts are underway to eradicate the snake, such a task is proving difficult.

To try and locate Brown-throated Parakeets, listen to their loud, raucous shrieks. The birds may appear green at first glimpse, but a closer view will reveal the beautiful bluish colors in the wings, the yellow under the tail, and the yellowish eye



ring. Parakeets from Aruba are described as a distinct subspecies and are drabber than the subspecies from Curaçao and Bonaire, which have brighter yellow on the face and throat.

#### Bananaquits - Barica Geel



A lively little bird with blackish back and head, white stripe above the eye, and bright yellow belly. Bananaquits may remind visitors from the eastern U.S. of the familiar and beloved backyard bird, the chickadee, which is why we fondly refer to the Bananaquit as the "chickadee of the Caribbean." The locals call them chibichibi (in Dutch, zuiker diefje), and when you hear them, you'll know why. They are common throughout the island including around hotels and if possible, may arrive at your breakfast table to sip juice or sample the jelly or syrup. They can be drawn to the balcony of your room by setting out fresh fruit or juice in a shallow bowl or dish. The buzzy song, repeated all day, soon becomes familiar and delightful background "noise" on Aruba.



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## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitor at Manchebo

PALM BEACH — Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors and Distinguished Visitors at their home away from home.

The honored was:

## Deborah Ladny from USA, who has been visiting the island for 16 years.

The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

Ms. Kimberly Richardson thanked her for choosing Aruba as her vacation destination and as her home away from home for so many years together with representatives of Manchebo Beach Resort.

Ladny stated that the main reasons for returning to Aruba are the white sandy beaches, delicious variety of food and Aruba's warm and friendly people.









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## Through the eyes of



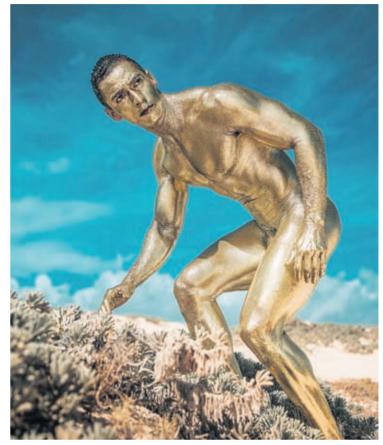
Photography is a fascinating art. The photographer takes you into his world and makes you look at a certain topic through his eyes. The reflection of emotions that counted for that moment touch your sens-

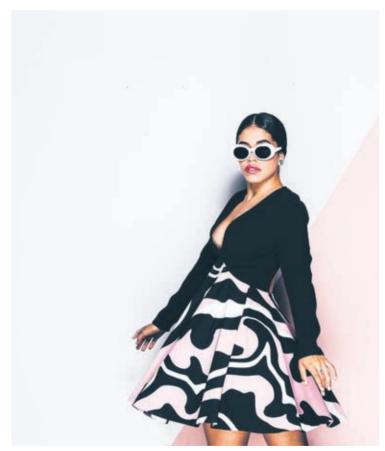
es and many times a picture tells a story without speaking. Aruba has talented photographers, young, eager, creative and with their own, particular style. Aruba Today presents to you one of these amazing personalities and a sip of his work.

#### Jonathan Petit

The jolly, always polite Jonathan Petit is a seen photographer on the island. He seems to be everywhere and he is a flexible person to work with. "I am 24 years old and a wedding & fashion photographer based on the island of Aruba. My style is very much concept driven as I work close-







ly with my clients to understand their vision and help them find unique locations that reflect their sentiments. Working on a small island never limited my creativity." - www.instagram.com/callmepetit

The actual cover picture of Aruba Today's facebook page is the work of this talented photographer. We just love culture and would like to support our local talents, therefore Aruba Today chooses to be a platform for showcasina art.





Column by: Shanella Pantophlet

#### A lesson learned

ORANJESTAD — Every day in the hospitality business is an opportunity to learn something new. It's one aspect of the career I've chosen that I quite enjoy. Some lessons though are harder than others and will test you more than anything you've previously experienced. The times I tend to learn the most are the weeks that stress me out the most. Those moments where you need to see the forest and not just the trees.

Recently one of those learning experiences came around. In the form of a wedding group of all things. Various of my more experienced colleagues have told me since I started work, that as a timeshare we never accept group reservations unless it's a slow period. So of course mistake one came in the form of accepting a wedding group during two of the busiest weeks of the year. My colleague in rentals spent most of January and February telling me she was going to take vacation on the dates those guests were scheduled to be there. One of her reasons being as the dates drew nearer we still hadn't secured all the rooms we needed.



Ever confident though, I kept the faith and reminded her that she's the one who taught me never to panic when oversold. We would have the rooms we needed. The confident exterior certainly didn't match the interior, but I wasn't about to let them see me sweat.

Finally the time comes, we by the skin of our teeth have gotten all the rooms and manage to achieve something we hadn't in a long time, a 100% occupancy rate. Of course that comes with its own challenges for housekeeping, both during the week and on the Saturday. As much as that was a win for the resort, it was a strain on the housekeeping budget, something the Executive Housekeeper likes to remind me of. Everyone was slightly on edge for that week, trying to manage the sheer volume of people.

The next lesson came in the form of the wedding day itself. It just so happened to be the same day as our change over day. Although, we had managed to get some of the group members in rooms where they could be in for the entirety of their stay, some still had to move. Well that was problematic to say the least and took a whole lot of coordination between all the departments involved to get everyone moved and shipped into where they had to be in time for the sunset ceremony. So lesson number two, no groups whose big events fall on change over day.

I don't think anyone has ever been as relieved as we were when those weeks were over and we got to go back to our regular pace. The biggest lesson I learned and I hope my colleagues did too is that by pulling together and coordinating our efforts we can do more than we thought we were capable of. Timeshares can't fully compete when it comes to hosting massive groups, but if we are willing to adapt our stance, be selective and find groups that fit within our boundaries, then a whole new field is wide open for us.



Aruban born and bred Shanella Pantophlet is passionate about tourism. That is the world she studied and works in, so we might as well call her a specialist. Luckily for Aruba Today Shanella also loves to write. And together with the fact that the majority of our readers are tourists, we found ourselves a perfect combination for a column: Hotel Hustle.



## **SPORTS**







## Tiger Woods makes Masters 15th and most improbable major

By DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

**AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)** — Fallen hero, crippled star, and now a Masters champion again.

Tiger Woods rallied to win the Masters for the fifth time Sunday, a comeback that goes well beyond the twoshot deficit he erased before a delirious audience that watched memories turn into reality at Augusta National.

Woods had gone nearly 11 years since he won his last major, 14 years since that green jacket was slipped over his Sunday red shirt. He made it worth the wait, closing with a 2-under 70 for a one-shot victory and setting off a scene of raw emotion.

He scooped up 10-yearold Charlie, born a year after Woods won his 14th major at Torrey Pines in the 2008 U.S Open.

He hugged his mother and then his 11-year-old daughter Sam, and everyone else in his camp that stood by him through a public divorce, an embarrassing DUI arrest from a concoction of painkillers and four back surgeries, the most recent one just two years ago to fuse his lower spine. "WOOOOOO!!!" Woods screamed as he headed for the scoring room with chants of "Tiger! Tiger! Tiger" echoing as loud as any of the roars on the back nine at Augusta National.

"It's overwhelming, just because of what has transpired," Woods said in Butler Cabin.

Continued on Page 20





## Irving, Morris lead Celtics' rally past Pacers in Game 1

#### **BV KYLE HIGHTOWER AP Sports Writer**

**BOSTON (AP)** — The Celtics have been at their best this season when they are forcing turnovers, spacing the floor and knocking down outside shots.

They found out in their Game 1 win over the Pacers that they are equipped to win an ugly, physical game as well.

Irving and Marcus Morris each scored 20 points, and the Boston rallied in the second half to the beat Indiana Pacers 84-74 on Sunday in Game 1 of their firstround playoff series.

Jayson Tatum finished with 15 points. Al Horford added 10 points and 11 rebounds, and Gordon Hayward had 10 points. It was the first playoff game since 2017 for Irving and Hayward after each missed last year's postseason with injuries.

"I just try to be aggressive on the ball, be in the right spots," Irving said. "I just really want to be aggressive and really be the head of the snake."

Game 2 is Wednesday night in Boston.

The Pacers led by 11 points during a timeout. in the first half but had just eight points in the third quarter. The Celtics capitalized and led by as many as 22 in the fourth. The 29 points that Indiana scored in the second half were its worst of the season.

Cory Joseph had 14 points for the Pacers. Bojan Bogdanovic was the lone Pacers starter in double figures with 12 points.

Both teams shot under 40 percent for the game. Boston hit just 36% (28 of 77) and had 20 turnovers. Indiana connected on 33% of its shots (28 of 84) and turned it over 13 times.

The Celtics' 84 points were their fewest of the season and marked the first time they scored fewer than 100 points and won.

"We held them to 84 points. We just didn't score enough," Indiana's Wesley Matthews said.

Celtics coach Brad Stevens and Pacers coach Nate McMillan both said before the series that the more physical team would have

the edge. After a shaky start, it turned out to be Boston.

Boston opened the third quarter with a 22-3 run to take a 60-48 lead. The Pacers didn't get their first field goal of the second half until Joseph dropped in a layup with 3:38 left in the third. They finished the quarter 2 for 19 from the field.

"I thought we kind of lost our way," McMillan said. "They got the momentum and really never let that go."

Likewise, Stevens said his team found something in that quarter.

"They missed some shots, but we were really connected," he said. "We were really playing hard. We were really flying around." TIP-INS

Pacers: Went 12 of 21 from the free throw line (57. Celtics: Outrebounded the

#### Pacers 55-42. **TURNING POINT**

Boston's run included a brief appearance by Celtics Hall of Famer and former Pacers front office executive Larry Bird, who was shown on the big screen

The period ended with Terry Rozier connecting on an acrobatic 3-pointer with 0.1 seconds remaining to put the Celtics ahead 64-53. The lead grew to 84-62 on a 3-pointer by Tatum with 3:34 remaining.

Stevens went with Jaylen Brown in the starting lineup in place of Marcus Smart, who is out with a torn left oblique.

But after Boston committed four turnovers in the first four minutes of the game, Stevens quickly adjusted, inserting Morris and Hayward.

While his team was able to recover from a dismal start, Stevens said the Pacers' defense deserved credit for making things difficult on them throughout the game.

"Those guys guarded their butts off," Stevens said. "That game looked like a 1980s playoff game in a lot of ways with the score. But it's tough. Those guys are physical. ... We have a lot to get better at."



Boston Celtics' Marcus Morris, left, drives past Indiana Pacers' Darren Collison during the second quarter in Game 1 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Sunday, April 14, 2019, in Boston. **Associated Press** 





## Tiger Woods makes Masters 15th and most improbable major

#### Continued from Page 18

"Last year I was lucky to be playing again. At the previous year's dinner, I was really struggling. I missed a couple of years not playing this great tournament. To now be the champion ... 22 years between wins is a long time. It's unreal to experience this."

Woods lost his impeccable image to a sex scandal, one of the swiftest and most shocking downfalls in sport.

He lost his health to four back surgeries that left him unable to get out of bed, much less swing a club, and he went two years without even playing a major. It was two years ago at the Masters when Woods said he needed a nerve block just to walk to the Champi-



Tiger Woods wears his green jacket holding the winning trophy after the final round for the Masters golf tournament Sunday, April 14, 2019, in Augusta, Ga.

**Associated Press** 

ons Dinner. At that time, he thought his career is over. Now the comeback is truly complete.

He wrapped his arms around his father when he won his first green jacket in 1997, changing the world of golf.

"Now I'm the dad with two kids there," he said.

He wanted his children to see him win, once saying they saw him only as a You-Tube legend. They were at the British Open when he had the lead briefly. They couldn't make it to East Lake last September, when he won the Tour Championship for his first victory in five years.

"I wasn't going to let that happen to them twice," he said. "To let them see what it's like to have their dad win a major championship, I hope it's something they'll never forget."

Woods won his 15th major, three short of the standard set by Jack Nicklaus. It was his 81st victory on the PGA Tour, one title away from the career record held by Sam Snead. "A big 'well done' from me to Tiger," Nicklaus tweeted. "I am so happy for him and for the game of golf. This is just fantastic!!!"

It was the first time Woods won a major when trailing going into the final round, and he needed some help from Francesco Molinari, the 54-hole leader who still was up two shots heading into the heart of Amen Corner.

And that's when all hell broke loose at Augusta.

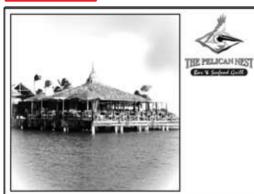
Molinari's tee shot on the par-3 12th never had a chance, hitting the bank and tumbling into Rae's Creek for double bogey. Until then, Molinari had never trailed in a round that began early in threesomes to finish ahead of storms. And then it seemed as though practically everyone had a chance.

Six players had a share of the lead at some point on the back. With the final group still in the 15th fairway, there was a five-way tie for the lead. And that's when Woods seized control, again with plenty of help.

Molinari's third shot clipped a tree and plopped straight down in the water for another double bogey. Woods hit onto the green, setting up a two-putt birdie for his first lead of the final round.

The knockout punch was a tee shot into the 16th that rode the slope just by the cup and settled 2 feet away for birdie and a twoshot lead with two holes to play. Brooks Koepka, one of four players from the final two groups who hit into the water on No. 12, rallied with an eagle on the 13th, narrowly missed another eagle on the 15th and was the last player with a chance. His birdie putt on the 18th from just outside 10 feet never had a chance, and he had to settle for a 70.  $\square$ 





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## Price and Bogaerts carry Red Sox past Orioles 4-0

By KEN POWTAK **Associated Press** 

BOSTON (AP) — The big foursome leading Boston's starting rotation had struggled badly this season.

David Price took care of that with a masterful outing.

Price pitched seven stellar innings with seven strikeouts, Xander Bogaerts hit a three-run homer and drove in every run, and the Red Sox beat the Baltimore Orioles 4-0 on Sunday.

Price, Chris Sale, Rick Porcello and Nathan Eovaldi entered Sunday 0-7 with an 8.43 ERA in 11 starts.

With the starters unable to go deep into games, the Red Sox bullpen has pitched a lot of innings.

"Excellent," Boston manager Alex Cora said of the performance. "Everybody knew where were pitchingwise today, for him to go seven and give the ball to those last two guys was very important for us."

Price (1-1) had easily the best outing from that quartet this season, mixing his mid-90s fastball with a sharp changeup and cutter to allow just three hits without issuing a walk.

"I knew the situation," Price said. "You've got to eat up as many innings as possible. I was able to put up zeros today, so that was big for US."

The teams wrap up their four-game series with Boston's traditional Patriots' Day morning game Monday, with first pitch set for secutive year.

Baltimore's Chris Davis went been bouncing between er. Rafael Devers bounced



Boston Red Sox's Xander Bogaerts, center, celebrates his three-run home run that also drove in Mookie Betts, left, and J.D. Martinez, right, during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles in Boston, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

day after ending his record 0-for-54 stretch.

Ryan Brasier escaped a Barnes worked the ninth, closing out the combined five-hitter.

Bogaerts hit his shot off reliever Josh Lucas into the center field seats in the

John Means (1-2) gave up a run and four hits in five innings, striking out three and walking one in just his 0 for 4 with two strikeouts a the rotation and bullpen out to end the inning.

this season.

"I just want that role of being able to do whatever jam in the eighth, and Matt they ask me to do and I come to the field ready to go at all times," he said. "I do like starting. It's what I've always done. So, yeah, I'm just very comfortable." The 25-year-old lefty wiggled out of what could have been a tough fourth when he gave up the run. Steve Pearce had a leadoff single and advanced to second big league start. third on J.D. Martinez's dou-11:05 a.m. The Red Sox are He made his first career ap- ble. Pearce scored on Boscheduled to play on the pearance in Fenway Park gaerts' fly before Martinez holiday for the 60th con- last Sept. 26, allowing five was cut down at the plate runs over 3 1/3 innings. He's on Dustin Pedroia's ground-

Baltimore pitching coach Doug Brocail, in the third base dugout, was ejected by first base umpire Stu Scheurwater. It was Brocail's ninth career ejection, six coming as a player.

#### TRAINER'S ROOM

Orioles: Manager Brandon Hyde said OF Dwight Smith Jr.'s right leg was "a little sore." Smith was scratched about an hour before the game, prompting the shifting of four spots in the batting order. He flew out to center pinch hitting with two on, ending the eighth. "In BP, just his leg, his quad was a little tight, and I just thought it was the right thing to do to give him a breather, and he'll be back in there tomorrow," Hyde

Red Sox: LF Andrew Benintendi left with a bruised right **Associated Press** 

foot after fouling a pitch off it. He originally had the day off but was in the lineup when CF Jackie Bradley Jr. was scratched with the flu. Benintendi said after that he doesn't see it "being anything super serious." ... Cora inserted Pedroia in the DH slot to avoid playing him consecutive days at second base. Pedroia played just three games



last season because of a



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## Islanders top Penguins 4-1 to take 3-0 series lead

By WILL GRAVES AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The New York Islanders don't play a particularly sexy brandy of hockey. They forecheck. They backcheck. They block shots and take few risks, more focused on fundamentals than flash.

It's a style designed to frustrate opponents regardless of pedigree, one that has them on the cusp of just their second playoff series win in more than a quartercentury.

Jordan Eberle and Brock Nelson scored 62 seconds apart in the first period to quickly erase a rare deficit, Robin Lehner stopped 25 shots and the Islanders moved within one victory of finishing off Sidney Crosby and the rest of the frustrated Pittsburgh Penguins with a 4-1 win on Sunday to take a 3-0 lead in their best-of-seven Eastern Conference quarterfinal.

It's heady territory for a franchise that's advanced past the first round just once since 1993. Yet the Islanders certainly look like they belong on the big stage. They've outscored Pittsburgh 11-5 through three games and have trailed for less than four minutes through nine-plus periods against a team that began the playoffs looking to capture its third Stanley Cup in four years, a dream that's all but vanished.



Pittsburgh Penguins' Bryan Rust (17) and New York Islanders' Johnny Boychuk (55) collide in the goal crease in front of goaltender Robin Lehner during the third period in Game 3 of an NHL first-round hockey playoff series in Pittsburgh, Sunday, April 14, 2019. The Islanders won 4-1.

**Associated Press** 

Eberle beat Matt Murray "We kind of did our best to play simple hockey and reshort side from just above the goal line 28 seconds ally just grind it out a little bit," said New York forward after Wilson's score to tie Anders Lee, whose emptythe game and Nelson finished off a 2-on-1 to put net goal with 1:28 to go pushed the Islanders to the New York in front to stay just cusp of an unlikely sweep. over a minute later. Lehner It's what the Islanders do. withstood a series of pushes While they lack Pittsburgh's by the Penguins, and the offensive firepower, they've Islanders counterpunched brilliantly in the third pemade up for it with depth and resiliency. Rather than riod behind goals from Leo get rattled after Garrett Wil-Komarov and Lee to pull son gave the Penguins just

> "Playoffs are all about momentum," said Eberle, who has three goals in three games. "When you can take some team's momentum away and just contin

ue to build yours, it's key." Matt Murray finished with 32 saves for the Penguins, but Pittsburgh again struggled to generate any sort of sustained offensive pressure.

New York, which allowed an NHL-low 196 goals on its way to a second-place finish in the Metropolitan Division, has clamped down on Crosby and linemate Jake Guentzel. The two — who combined for 75 goals and 101 assists during the regular season — have yet to record a point in the playoffs. Pittsburgh needs a win in Game 4 on Tuesday to avoid being swept for the first time since the 2013 Eastern Conference finals against Boston.

"You've got to find ways to score goals this time of year," Crosby said. "It's not easy but you've got to find a way to do it and obviously we haven't done a good job of it through the first three games."

The Islanders controlled Games 1 and 2 back home on Long Island to take the franchise's first 2-0 post-season lead since the 1983 Stanley Cup finals, when they completed their run of four straight champion-ships by sweeping Wayne Gretzky and the Edmonton Oilers.

The Penguins insisted it wasn't time to panic, with coach Mike Sullivan downplaying the idea his team needed to play with des-

peration. Still, he opted to tinker with his lines in search of a spark, elevating Dominik Simon to the top line alongside Crosby and Guentzel and putting Jared McCann — who sat out Game 2 with a lower-body injury — on the second line with Evgeni Malkin and Phil Kessel.

It didn't quite work. Simon had a chance to even the score late in the first period, but Guenztel's crossing pass at the end of a 3-on-1 headed to Simon's stick instead of his skate, emblematic of a series in which few bounces have gone Pittsburgh's way. Not that the Penguins were looking for sympathy.

"If we work hard and do the right things, we'll earn our bounces," Crosby said. The Islanders have certainly earned theirs.

Now they find themselves in a spot that seemed improbable at best a week ago: heading to Game 4 with a chance to make Pittsburgh's playoff stay the shortest of the Crosby/Malkin era. They're also aware the next victory will be the hardest to come by.

"This group is not afraid of work," said first-year Islanders coach Barry Trotz, who led Washington past Pittsburgh last spring on the way to the Stanley Cup. "They're not afraid of competition. They're not afraid of a whole lot."



Goalkeeper Alex Rigsby of the United States lies on the ice while Riikka Nieminen of Finland starts celebrating her gamewinning overtime goal which was later disallowed during the IIHF Women's Ice Hockey World Championships final match between the United States and Finland in Espoo, Finland, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

**Associated Press** 

their second lead of the

series when he redirected

a point shot by Lehner just

past the midway point of

the first period, the Islanders

responded immediately.

# U.S. beats Finland in shootout for gold after OT controversy

ESPOO, Finland (AP) — Alex Rigsby stopped four of five shots in a shootout and the United States beat Finland 2-1 on Sunday night for its fifth consecutive gold medal at the women's world championship.

but officials spent more than 10 minutes reviewing the play before disallowing the goal for goalie interference and forcing players to pick up their equipment and resume the game. Fans who chanted

The U.S. won after a questionable goaltender interference review wiped out what would have been a historic overtime goal for the Finns.

Finland celebrated on home ice after Petra Nieminen scored on a rebound 11:33 into overtime, than 10 minutes reviewing the play before disallowing the goal for goalie interference and forcing players to pick up their equipment and resume the game. Fans who chanted "Suomi!" and waved blue and white flags throughout the game and erupted into jubilation after Nieminen appeared to score rained boos down on the Americans when they were given their medals.

"I'm extremely proud of our team tonight for playing their game while emotions were running high, in a loud building and against a team that played us incredibly hard," U.S. coach Bob Corkum said. "It's been an honor to coach this team."

This was already a first for Finland, which pulled a stunning upset of Canada in the semifinals Saturday behind 43 saves from Noora Raty. The U.S. and Canada had met in each of the previous 28 world championship finals dating to the first in 1990.



## Olympic gold medalist Shields unifies middleweight division

#### By DAN GELSTON ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) —

Claressa Shields tossed one championship belt around her neck, fastened another around her waist and draped one more over a shoulder.

She had about run out of room for all her titles.

At least the ones she can use as accessories. Shields staked her claim as the top middleweight in boxing and maybe even as the GWOAT — yes, the Greatest Woman Of All Time. She may not be there yet, but with more beatings like the one she put on Christina Hammer, Shields may soon earn that coveted title.

Shields used her speed and power to push to the brink of a knockout as the two-time Olympic gold medalist remained undefeated with a unanimous decision over Hammer in a middleweight championship bout and one of the most anticipated fights in women's boxing history.

Shields (9-0) held three versions of the 160-pound title and snagged Hammer's slice of the division championship to unify the belts Saturday night at Boardwalk Hall. The charismatic Shields



Claressa Shields holds her belts after defeating Christina Hammer by unanimous decision in the women's world middleweight championship boxing bout Saturday, April 13, 2019, in Atlantic City, N. I.

had a few thousand fans on their feet — and A-listers rooting her on from home — to give herself plenty of gold to strap around her waist to go with the medals around her neck.

"I am the greatest woman of all time. Give me that," Shields said in the ring. "Women's boxing, we're on fire. I can't wait to see the next super fight." Odds are she'll be in it.

Undefeated and undisputed, the 24-year-old Shields won 98-91 on two cards and 98-92 on the other, and was simply dominant over 10 two-minute rounds. "I feel like I'm dreaming," Shields said. "I knew I could hurt her. I thought I finished her around round 8. I was so pumped."

Hammer's mouthpiece

#### **Associated Press**

went flying in the eighth round — she may have spit it out — when she absorbed more blows to the face that left her reeling and with about no chance for a comeback.

Shields, out of Flint, Michigan, nailed Hammer with a flurry of shots to close the eighth round and had the fans howling for "T-Rex!" Shields won Olympic gold

in 2012 at London and 2016 in Rio, and hasn't lost since 2012 as an amateur. Shields has made it a mission to revolutionize women's boxing the way Ronda Rousey became a mainstream star in mixed martial arts. There have been more accomplished female fighters Laila Ali, Christy Martin, Lucia Rijker top the short list — but no bout has quite matched this one in anticipation or potential historic significance.

Martin, who fought on cards headlined by Mike Tyson other heavyweight champions, was in attendance and Oscar winning actress Halle Berry tweeted her support.

"Tonight is one of the biggest fights in women's middleweight boxing - I'm so proud that this moment has arrived, and am even more proud of my dear sweet STRONG friend @Claressashields! Make some history tonight, CHAMP!!" Berry tweeted.

Oscar nominee Rosie Perez was also watching the bout.

"That right hand Shields. Needs to... Ooh! Nice body by Shields. Good scrap," she tweeted.

## Belgian veteran Gilbert beats Politt to win Paris-Roubaix

ROUBAIX, France (AP) — Veteran cyclist Philippe Gilbert beat German rider Nils Politt right at the end of Sunday's Paris-Roubaix race to win it for the first time. Gilbert strategically placed himself behind the 24-year-old Politt, and then attacked him down the left to win by about a length after nearly six hours of riding. Belgian rider Yves Lampaert finished in third.

The race is one of cycling's five high-profile classics, along with the Tour of Flanders, Milan-San Remo, Liege-Bastogne-Liege and the Giro di Lombardia. The 36-year-old Gilbert, a former world road race champion, has won all except Milan-San Remo.

"I still have this dream to

win all them. Little by little I'm getting there," an elated Gilbert said afterward. "Politt's very courageous. In the end the best rider won, and thankfully it was me." Last year's Paris-Roubaix winner Peter Sagan joined Gilbert and Politt near the front with about 20 kilometers left. But Sagan dropped off, leaving Gilbert and Politt to contest victory as they reached the Roubaix velodrome in northern France.

Paris-Roubaix is known as the Queen of the Classics because it is the most prestigious of the five, which are otherwise known as "monuments" of cycling.

But the grueling and dangerous 257-kilometer trek is also known as the "Hell of

the North," because of its treacherous profile including more than 50 kilometers (31 miles) of cobblestones spread out over 29 sectors. "A lot of people said cobblestones aren't for me. But I've won Tour of Flanders and now I've won here," Gilbert said. "I rode a good race tactically."

Belgian cyclist Tiesj Benoot crashed into the back of a Jumbo-Visma team car near the end of Sunday's race, smashing the back window completely. He was taken to hospital but his injuries were not immediately known.

Last year's Paris-Roubaix was overshadowed by the death of Belgian rider Michael Goolaerts, following a crash.



Philippe Gilbert of Belgium celebrates as he crosses the finish line ahead of Nils Politt of Germany, left, to win the 117th edition of the Paris-Roubaix cycling classic, a 257 kilometer (160 mile) one-day-race, with about 20 per cent of the distance over cobblestone roads, at the velodrome in Roubaix, northern France, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

**Associated Press** 



## Goodbye console? Google launches game-streaming platform

#### By MAE ANDERSON **AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Google on Tuesday unveiled a streaming video-game platform called Stadia, positioning itself to take on the traditional video-game business.

The platform will store a game-playing session in the cloud and lets players jump across devices operating on Google's Chrome browser and Chrome OS, such as Pixel phones and Chromebooks.

Google didn't say how much its new service will cost, whether it will offer subscriptions or other options, or what games will be available at launch all key elements to the success of a new video-game platform. It said only that Stadia will be available in late 2019.

Google made the announcement at the Game Developers Conference in San Francisco. Some industry watchers were expecting a streaming console, but Google's platform centers squarely on the company's cloud infrastructure.

"The new generation of gaming is not a box," said Google Vice President Phil Harrison. "The data center is your platform."

Much like movies and music, the traditional videogame industry has been shifting from physical hardware and games to digital downloads and stream-



This image provided by Google shows the controller for a videogame streaming platform called Stadia, positioning itself to take on the traditional video-game business.

**Associated Press** 

ing. Video-game streaming typically requires a strong connection and more computing power than simply streaming video, since there is real-time interaction between player and game. Google says it is leveraging its data centers to power the system.

Alphabet Inc.'s Google said playing video games will be as simple as pressing a "Play Now" button, with nothing to download or install. An optional dedicated Stadia controller will be available. The WiFienabled controller has a button that lets players launch a microphone and use Google Assistant to ask questions about the games being played. Another button lets users share gameplay directly to Google's video streaming service, they've done with Stadia is

YouTube. Harrison said he expects all gaming will eventually take place outside consoles, in cloud-powered streaming platforms similar to what

Google announced. But not right away. "It won't replace traditional games devices overnight," he said in an interview after

the announcement. "And we wouldn't be here if not for the existing traditional platforms."

CFRA Research analyst Scott Kessler said Google's approach that ties You-Tube sharing and videogame playing is unique.

"It is not necessarily at this point the easiest thing for people to livestream their aames and now you can do it with the push of a button," he said. "What

to connect and unify both the gaming platform and the streaming platform which obviously is new."

The company said Stadia will be available in late 2019 in the U.S., Canada, the U.K. and parts of Europe. Google showed demos of "Assassin's Creed Odyssey" and "Doom Eternal." More information about games and pricing is due this sum-

The U.S. video game industry raked in revenue of \$43.4 billion in 2018, up 18 percent from 2017, according to research firm NPD Group.

BTIG Managing Director Brandon Ross said Stadia will be a positive for game publishers "assuming that it works and works at scale, which is a big assumption." That's because the platform could bring in players not willing to spend the money upfront for a gaming PC or a console.q

"What they're presenting is a feasible way to play videogames in the cloud, and utilizing the cloud so you can play anytime, anyplace and anywhere." he said. "There's no friction, including the friction of upfront hardware costs."

Ross added that Google's platform could set up a distribution battle between Microsoft, which owns the Xbox, Sony, which owns the PlayStation, Google and perhaps Amazon, which reportedly is working on its own video-game service, as they race to lock down distribution of the most indemand games.

Google that end, launched Stadia Games and Entertainment which will develop Stadia-exclusive games.

"The differentiator for any of the distributors on a console or in the cloud is going to be available content," he said.

Harrison said Google will rely on outside publishers and game developers to provide many of the games available on the platform. But having its own inside studio will also allow the company to fully test and make use of new features.

"We can be the advance party, so to speak, and we can be testing out the latest technology," he said. "Once we've proven it we can help bring that up to speed on the platform even more quickly with our third-party partners."

Harrison acknowledged Google faces stiff competition from longtime rivals Microsoft, Sony and others. Google has been working on Stadia for more than four years, he said, and has been working with game developers through Android and Play Store for Ionger.The others have more than a decade of experience.

But Google believes it brings something new.

"We are not a historical console or PC platform," he said. "We are built specifically for this new generation."



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## EU: Facebook changes terms to show it makes money from data

#### By KELVIN CHAN **Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — Facebook has changed the fine print in its terms of service to clearly explain to users that it makes money by using their data, the European Commission said last Tues-

The social media giant modified its terms and conditions to better inform users what they are signing up for, the commission said. The new wording will clearly explain how Facebook uses the data it collects on users to develop profiling



In this March 29, 2018 file photo, the logo for Facebook appears on screens at the Nasdaq MarketSite, in New York's Times Square. **Associated Press** 

activities and target advertising to "finance" the company, it said.

The company made the

with the commission and European consumer protection authorities. EU regulators stepped up scrutiny changes after discussions of Facebook's terms after

the Cambridge Analytica data privacy scandal, in which data on 87 million Facebook users was alleaedly improperly harvested. They also want tech companies to bring their terms in line with European consumer law.

If Facebook wants to restore consumer trust after the scandal, it "should not hide behind complicated, legalistic jargon on how it is making billions on people's data," European Union Consumer Commissioner Vera Jourova said in a statement .



## What it's really like to win money to pay down student loans

#### By TEDDY NYKIEL **NerdWallet Associated Press**

As the U.S. student loan balance surpasses \$1.5 trillion, a trio of contests promise a lucky few a shot at putting a dent in their debt.

While most of the over 44 million people with student loan debt can't count on winning an oversized novelty check to pay off their balance, they can turn to tried-and-true tactics like income-driven repayment plans to lower monthly payments or refinancing to pay off student loans fast. But for a select group, these games do bring relief. Here, three winners share behind-the-scenes details about what it's like — and what it takes — to win.

#### 'PAID OFF' GAME SHOW

TruTV's "Paid Off With Michael Torpey" pits contestants against one another to eliminate some or all of their student debt. It returns for a second season in May.

Jodeci Richards, 27, of Atlanta won almost \$10,000 on the show — about enough to wipe out her remaining loans from Florida State University. She filmed the show in March 2018, but didn't receive the payout until after the episode aired in July. In the meantime, she continued making payments.

"I didn't want to fall behind," she says. "Navient, Sallie Mae — they get a



In this Jan. 9, 2019, file photo University of Georgia undergraduate students avoid walking under the university arch on the first day of the spring semester in Athens, Ga.

little antsy."

BEHIND THE SCENES: The audition process lengthy, beginning with a Google form application, then phone calls, video interviews, an in-person callback and a background check. Richards said she was a skeptic throughout. "If this is real, they're not going to send a Google form," she remembers thinking.

"I wound up actually trying to do a background check on their background checkers, because I wanted to cover myself."

#### **NATTY STORIES CONTEST**

Under its Natural Light brand, Anheuser-Busch is giving away \$1 million to

help 70 people pay down college debt in 2019.

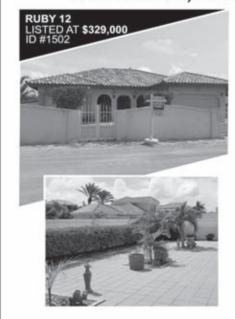
To enter, student loan borrowers must post a video

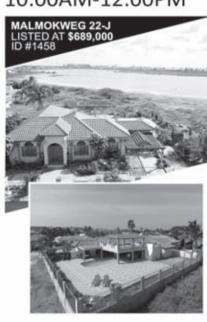
**Associated Press** to social media by May 18 about why they went to college. The video must include the green dollar-sign tab found on limited-edition cans of Natural Light, and the social post must include #NattyStories and #Contest.

RJ Young, 31, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, won \$40,000 in the 2018 contest. His entry explains that he went to college to learn to tell compelling stories, but that he needed student loans to pay for it. Young has a bachelor's, master's and is pursuing a Ph.D. in English. He estimates that he owed over \$100,000 before winning.

**BEHIND THE SCENES:** Prize money is taxable income. (Richards' winnings were also taxed.) After Young received his check, he used some of the cash to hire an accountant. The remainder stayed in his bank account for almost a year while Young sorted through how the winnings affected his 2018 income taxes.

# OPEN HOUSES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH 10:00AM-12:00PM





## Coresight: US store closures this year exceed 2018 total

#### By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO **Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. store closures this year are already exceeding the total for 2018, says a key global research and advisory firm. Coresight Research, which tracks store openings and closings, said Friday retailers have announced 5,994 store closures and 2,641 store openings as of early April.

That compares to 5,864 closures and 3,239 openings for the full year 2018.

The number of closures indicates that traditional retailers are struggling to respond to shoppers' increasing shift online even as they're working hard to reinvent their businesses. Plenty of chains are shrink-

ing their footprint.

Gap Inc. said last month it would close about 200 Gap and Banana Republic stores in the next three years. Discount chain Fred's said earlier this week that it would be closing 159 stores.

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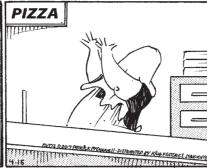
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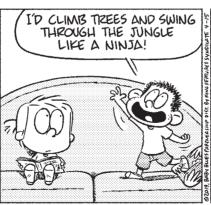


**Mother Goose & Grimm** 



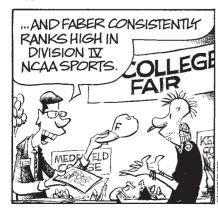
#### **Baby Blues**



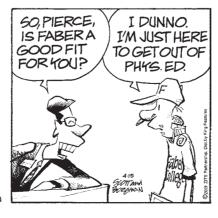




#### **Zits**







#### Conceptis Sudoku

		6			2			
	8	7	3			1		
2	8 3 6			5			8	
	6			7	8			9
		5	2	9	1	4		
1			4	6			5	
	4			8			9	2
		8			6	3 5	4	
			9			5		

Difficulty Level \*

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

_	4	6	1	8	5	2	3	7	9
nswe	2	တ	3	4	7	6	1	5	8
Saturday's puzzle answer	7	8	5	9	1	3	2	6	4
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day's	3	4	2	7	6	8	9	1	5
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٠,	5	3	7	6	4	1	8	9	2
	8	1	4	5	2	9	6	3	7
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#### **ACROSS** 1 Wolf's mournful

cry 5 Supervisor 9 Small store 13 Stay away from 15 Tatum's dad 16 Path 17 In a \_\_; sort of 18 Money given to a child 20 Conjunction 21 "What Kind of Fool \_\_?" 23 Meander 24 Stopped 26 In just a \_\_; soon 27 "Sesame 29 \_\_ hound; tracking dog 32 Ladies 33 \_\_Lott: former Senate Majority

Leader 35 Prefix for night or wife 37 Like fine wine 38 Beverage 39 Cause of misery 40 "Peter 41 New drivers, often 42 Forward dive 43 Clobbered

45 Zodiac sign 46 \_\_ budget; living frugally 47 \_\_-frutti 48 Overseas 51 Wrath 52 Brooch 55 Mentor 58 Long look 25 "A friend in \_\_ 60 Pennsylvania port 61 Zero 62 Private teacher 63 Refuse to accept 28 Robes for

DOWN

64 Voting day in the

as true

U.S.Ă.

65 Be flexible

1 "Every cloud, silver lining" 2 Microwave, for one

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 3 Sense of awe

4 Fleur-de-\_

6 Cartoon Olive

7 Actor Mineo

8 White winter

10 \_\_ over; deliver 11 "You're only

young \_\_\_" 12 One's equal

14 Benumb

27 Trade

Caesar

30 Set free

31 Color slightly

33 Long journey

34 "The Adventures

of \_\_ Tin Tin" 36 Stag or doe

38 Very rich & tasty

39 Tap a baseball

19 Midsection

22 Encountered

mound

9 Biases

5 Pigtail

Saturday's Puzzle Solved POD RABBI E A R S I S A A C G R I P D O D G E I C A N G E L S SPINELESS NERD TWO ASSETS FLOATING MALTSHAIRY TOO A G E S T O T E M F A I R Z A P L I N E D F A L S E ESTEEMEDSOILED A G B P A I L U N W I L L I N G K O A L A N E A L ACTS B 0 0 T U R G E T U D O R G A Z A T E A R U N I T Y R E X ©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

29 Franklin & Stiller 41 Albacore & bluefin 42 Most overdue 44 Mickey or Andy 45 Mongrel 47 Michelin products 57 1/4 and 3/4 48 \_\_ a test; passed 59 Place for 3

easily

49 Dull speaker

50 Destroy 53 Cast-\_ skillet 54 TV's Urkel, for one 56 Gehrig or Ferrigno nursery rhyme men



## CLASSIFIED A27 MONDAY 15 APRIL 2019



In this June 30, 2015, file photo, an endangered cassowary roams in the Daintree National Forest, Australia.

**Associated Press** 

## Large, flightless bird attacks and kills its fallen owner

#### **Associated Press**

**ALACHUA, Fla. (AP)** — A large, flightless bird native to Australia and New Guinea attacked and killed its owner when the man fell on his farm in Florida, authorities said Saturday.

The Alachua County Fire Rescue Department told the Gainesville Sun that a cassowary killed the man Friday on the property near Gainesville, likely using its long claws. The victim was apparently breeding the birds, state wildlife officials said. "My understanding is that the gentleman was in the vicinity of the bird and at some point fell. When he fell, he was attacked," Deputy Chief Jeff Taylor told the newspaper. He said first responders got a call at 10 a.m. Friday and rushed the man to a hospital for trauma care but he

"Initial information indicates that this was a tragic accident for Mr. Hajos," said Lt. Brett Rhodenizer, a sheriff's office spokesman, in an email to the paper. "The cassowary involved remains secured on private property at this time."

Cassowaries are similar to emus and stand up to 6 feet (1.8 meters) tall and weigh up to 130 pounds (60 kilograms), with black body feathers and distinctive, bright blue heads and

The San Diego Zoo's website calls the cassowary the world's most dangerous bird with a four-inch (10-centimeter), daggerlike claw on each foot. "The cassowary can slice

open any predator or potential threat with a single swift kick. Powerful legs help the cassowary run up to 31 miles per hour (50 kph) through the dense forest underbrush," the website says.

Cassowaries are eaten in parts of New Guinea. The birds are not raised for food in the U.S., but are sought after by collectors of exotic birds, according to authorities.

To obtain a mandatory permit, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission requires cassowary owners to have "substantial experience" and meet specific cage requirements, spokeswoman Karen Parker told the newspaper. She said the commission lists the cassowary as a type of wildlife that can "pose a danger to people."

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## NOAA: Bryde's whales in Gulf of Mexico are endangered

#### By J. McCONNAUGHEY **Associated Press**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Federal scientists say a tiny group of Bryde's whales in the Gulf of Mexico is endangered, facing threats including oil and gas exploration and development.

"They're the only yearround baleen whales that make their home in Gulf of Mexico, and (they) have a unique and very important role in the ecosystem," said Laura Engleby, a marine mammal biologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration fisheries' service.

Two other subspecies are found in tropical waters around the world, but this one is so genetically different it may even be a different species, Engleby said. The filter-feeding whales known as baleen whales can be hard to tell apart by sight, she said. "That makes it even more challenging to study them, in some ways," she said.

A Republican congressman from Florida and a marine mammal scientist in Massachusetts applauded the decision to protect the whales. There probably are about 33 of them in a deepwater area called the DeSoto Canyon, Engleby said. If there are any in the southern Gulf, she said, the total including the known population is probably less than 100.

"Although belated, this designation will help to protect this vulnerable species and aid in its recovery," U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan said in an emailed statement. Buchanan and Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Florida, pushed for the designation, Buchanan spokesman Anthony Cruz wrote.

"I think it's a great thing to declare them endan-



This 2018 photo provided by the National Park Service shows, scientists perform a necropsy on Bryde's whale that was stranded in the Florida Everglades National Park.

gered. It's been coming for

a while," said Scott Kraus,

chief marine mammal

scientist at the New Eng-

land Aquarium's Anderson

Cabot Center for Ocean

However, "It's absolutely

not too late" to save the

whale, said Zac Smith, at-

torney for the National Re-

sources Defense Council,

an environmental group

that sued the government

in 2014 to get the endan-

gered listing. "This species

now has a fighting chance

for survival and to rebound

from the brink of extinc-

Engleby said the next step

is to work out ways to help

the whales recover, includ-

ing consulting with other

agencies and considering

whether to designate criti-

Such a designation would

require NOAA Fisheries

consultation about any

federal contracts, which in-

clude oil and gas leases in

tion."

cal habitat.

federal waters.

#### **Associated Press**

seismic surveys for oil and gas and ship traffic, which communication.

Oil and gas companies agreed in 2013 not to use seismic surveys in an area including the DeSoto Canyon. That agreement, originally for 2½ years, has been extended and will remain in effect until 2022, NOAA Fisheries spokeswoman Kim Amendola said.

A study released in 2015 estimated the whales' numbers at 26. It said the BP offshore oil spill in 2010 overlapped nearly half their habitat and might have killed up to 22 percent of the population. Other threats include fishing nets, oil and gas development, pollution, and even being hit by ships — a whale was hit and killed by a ship in 2009.

It arrived in Tampa, Florida, "on the bow of a ship," Engleby said. Since it was lactating, she noted, the calf probably died, too.

The name is pronounced

"BROO-duhs" because they were named after the 19th century Norwegian whaler Johan Bryde.

Whalers' records dating back to the 1700s show they once swam in the central and northern gulf, according to NOAA Fisheries. They eat crustaceans, fish and cephalopods, which they filter through baleen plates and bristles.

Because they were confined to the Gulf of Mexico, they probably never were as numerous as some other species, said Smith.

Engleby said, "We don't really know much about this species."

She said a study funded with money from penalties that energy giant BP PLC and others paid after the oil spill is using visual surveys, passive acoustic monitoring and tagging to learn more, including their part in the ecosystem.

# interfere with their subsonic

## **Endangered whale experiencing** mini-baby boom off New England

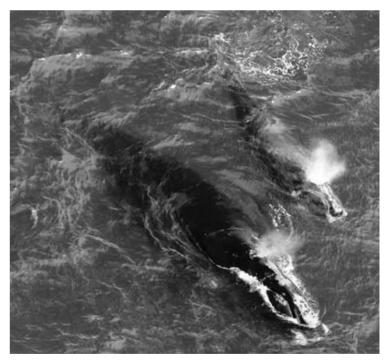
#### By The Associated Press

An endangered species of whale is experiencing a mini-baby boom in New England waters, researchers on Cape Cod have said.

The North Atlantic right whale is one of the rarest species of whale on the planet, numbering only about 411. But the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, Massachusetts, said Friday its aerial survey team spotted two mom and calf pairs in Cape Cod Bay a day earlier. That brings the number seen in New England waters alone this year to three.

That's big news because the whale's population has been falling, and no calves were seen last year. In all, seven right whale calves have been seen so far this

The whales give birth off Georgia and Florida in the winter and travel to feeding grounds off New England in the early spring, including the Gulf of Maine, a body of water that touches Mas-



In this Thursday, April 11, 2019, photo provided by the Center for Coastal Studies, a baby right whale swims with its mother in Cape Cod Bay off Massachusetts.

#### **Associated Press**

shire, Maine and Canada. Cape Cod Bay is part of the Gulf of Maine and is a critically important feeding ground. The animals often feed close to shore, providing watchers on land "unbeatable views of one of the rarest of marine

sachusetts, New Hamp- mammals," the Center for Coastal Studies said in a statement.

It's illegal to get within 1,500 feet (457 meters) of the animals without a federal research permit, so boaters are discouraged from attempting to get close to the whales.





## Jemele Hill still speaking her mind, this time on podcast

By DAVID BAUDER **Associated Press** 

NEW YORK (AP) — Jemele Hill has moved on, but not from speaking her mind.

The former ESPN host, best known to the non-sports world for tweets about President Donald Trump that provoked the White House to unsuccessfully seek her firing, launches a weekly podcast Monday on Spotify. On the show, "Jemele Hill is Unbothered," she'll conduct interviews and give commentary on sports, politics and culture. Coupled with a regular gig writing for The Atlantic magazine and her engagement in December to writer Ian Wallace, the 43-year-old Hill does seems unbothered. Happy, even. Some of her recent Atlantic pieces seem to give a road map for her podcast. She's written about how NFL players need to look out for their own interests because their teams probably won't, a "force field" erected by the black community that protected singer R. Kelly from consequences related to his behavior and how — after watching Barack and Michelle Obama interact with Trump at the funeral for former President George H.W. Bush — she wished they wouldn't always "go high."

Her interests are no surprise



**Associated Press** 

social media feed of this former sportswriter who dreamed of one day writing for Sports Illustrated.

"The beauty of sports is that it always provided a platform to talk about all of these other things," she said. "We've always made the mistake of making it seem like the rest of the universe is happening in one place and sports is happening over here, when often sports, politics, social

to anyone who follows the have been entwined. It's Trump unfolded in Septemreally not all that big of a leap."

> Hill became a newspaper sports columnist at 28 and when first hired at ESPN, it was as a writer, not a television host. Hill joined ESPN in 2006 from the Orlando Sentinel. She eventually moved in front of the cameras, although her highestprofile assignment, the 6 p.m. "SportsCenter" with Michael Smith, didn't quite click with viewers.

media and entertainment Her Twitter battle with

ber 2017. She called him a white supremacist and "the most ignorant, offensive president of my lifetime."

ESPN distanced itself from her comments and the controversy that ensued, but didn't discipline her. A month later, she was suspended for violating social media policy for tweeting that fans should effectively boycott the advertisers of the Dallas Cowboys after owner Jerry Jones said players who disrespected

the American flag would not play on his team.

Hill officially left ESPN in September 2018. A year and a half after the incident, Hill said she had no qualms over taking on the president. "I didn't like the fact that it caused damage to people I care about and to relationships that I built, but in terms of what I said, I don't regret it," she said. "In my mind, I've only been proven right so it's hard for me to regret it knowing that I'm on the right side of history." Hill's eventual exit from ESPN was more amicable than these things normally are. She explored some of these feelings in an Atlantic column about reconnecting with John Skipper, the former ESPN boss who left his job because of substance abuse issues. "I left ESPN a better journalist than when I started there," Hill wrote. "I'm rooting for his success because he so heavily invested in mine." Her hiring at Spotify dovetails with that company's ambition to be the world's leading audio platform for both podcasts and music, said Courtney Holt, head of Spotify Studios. The science podcast Dope Labs and another by comic Amy Schumer are among the 20 original podcasts Spotify is making now or launching.

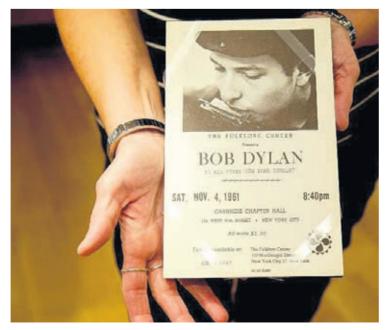
## Tulsa museum to feature musician Bob Dylan's paintings

#### **Associated Press**

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A Tulsa museum will soon open a new Bob Dylan exhibit that will showcase 12 pastel portraits the musician painted. The Gilcrease Museum will display "Bob Dylan: Face Value and Beyond" from May 10 to Sept. 15, the Tulsa World reported.

The exhibit is filled with pieces from the Bob Dylan Archives, which has more than 100,000 items from his 60-year career. It's the first major show from the archives since it was acquired by the George Kaiser Family Foundation and the University of Tulsa in 2016.

The paintings highlight



In this Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016 photo, a piece from Bob Dylan's first concert in New York is shown in Tulsa, Okla.

**Associated Press** 

Dylan's multifaceted artistic capabilities, said Michael Chaiken, the archive's curator.

"He's best known for his music, but Dylan is also a writer of prose, a filmmaker, and someone who has been involved in the visual arts for decades," Chaiken said. "This show is an opportunity ativity."

The portraits were first shown in London in 2013. The only time they were on display in the U.S. was during a two-month exhibit in Ohio in 2016.

Unlike previous displays, the Gilcrease exhibit will give more context to Dylan's portraits, Chaiken said.

"Here we're able to highlight the fact that there is a precedent for those portraits," he said. "Bob Dylan has been painting and drawing since at least the 1960s, although it's only been in recent years that he's put his work on display. to explore all those differ- So we have a lot of mateent avenues of Dylan's cre-rial to illustrate that, including drawings and sketchbooks that have never been shown before."

> The exhibit will also include handwritten song lyrics, a black leather jacket, an electric guitar and screen tests filmed by Andy Warhol.



## 'Shazam!' bests newcomers with \$25.1M second weekend

## By JAKE COYLE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A rush of newcomers couldn't shake "Shazam!" from the top spot, as the superhero comedy led the box office for the second straight weekend with \$25.1 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday. Lionsgate's "Hellboy" reboot, the animated Laika

Studios release "Missing

"After" and even the long-delayed "Mary Magda-lene," originally to be released by the Weinstein Co., all opened in theaters. But the strongest new release of them all was, predictably, the Will Packer-produced one: "Little."

The body-swap comedy "Little" came in second with \$15.5 million for Universal Pictures. Made for just \$20 million, "Little" is just the most recent profit-maker

MON-THU & SUN 3:50 | 8:40 FRI-SAT 3:50 | 8:40 | 10:55

ZACHARY LEVI | MICHELLE BORTH

MON-THU 5:40 | 8:30 FRI 5:40 | 8:30 | 11:20 T 2:50 | 5:40 | 8:30 | 11:20 SUN 2:50 | 5:40 | 8:30

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This image released by Warner Bros. shows Zachary Levi, left, and Jack Dylan Grazer in a scene from "Shazam!"

#### **Associated Press**

for Packer, the "Girls Trip" producer. The film, directed by Tina Gordon Chism, stars 14-year-old Marsai Martin as the child an abusive tech executive (Regina Hall) reverts to after a magical spell is cast on her. Martin, the "black-ish" star, also executive produced the film, the youngest ever so credited in Hollywood history.

"Little" drew a largely female (65 and African American (43%) audience. Jim Orr, Universal Pictures distribution chief, credited the cast, Chism's direction and Packer's overall knowhow.

"He's done it with different kinds of films. 'Breaking In' was a thriller, 'Girls Trip' was an R-rated comedy.

'Little' is kind of an all-ages film, PG-13 rated,'" said Orr, whose studio signed a first-look deal with Packer in 2013. "He's a brand. And he has a great idea of what is going to be successful at the box office."

It was an out-of-body weekend at the box office. The body-swap comic-book adaptation "Shazam!" about a teenage boy (Asher Angel) who can turn into an adult-sized superhero (Zachary Levi) with a simple command — held solidly in its second week. Capitalizing on good reviews and word-of-mouth, "Shazam!" is Warner Bros.' New Line's latest DC Comics success. It has grossed \$94.9 million through Sunday with a worldwide total of \$258.8

million. Lionsgate and Millennium's "Hellboy" had been expected by many to vie with "Shazam!" on the weekend. But on the heels of terrible reviews (just 15% "fresh" on Rotten Tomatoes), it flopped with \$12 million against a \$50 million budget.

That's significantly less than

the debuts of the 2004 original (\$23 million opening) and the 2008 sequel (\$34.5 million opening). Those films were directed by Guillermo de Toro and starred Ron Perlman; the new "Hellboy" stars David Harbour ("Stranger Things") and is directed by Neil Marshall. "Missing Link" also missed. It opened with a disappointing \$5.8 million, marking a new low for Laika, the maker of eccentric animated tales such as "Coraline," "ParaNorman" and "Kubo and the Two Strings." "Missing Link," distributed by United Artists Releasing, is about the discovery of a creature in the Pacific Northwest. Its voice cast includes Zach Galifianakis. Hugh Jackman and Zoe Saldana. Expectations had varied widely for Aviron Pictures' "After," an adaption of Anna Todd's 2014 best-seller. The young-adult

drama fared well with \$6.2

million in 2,138 theatres.

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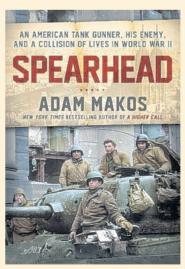
## 'Spearhead' is a well-researched WWII tale

## By KIM CURTIS Associated Press

"Spearhead: The World War II Odyssey of an American Tank Gunner," by Adam Makos (Ballantine Books)

With his two previous books, journalist Adam Makos established himself as a meticulous researcher who's equally adept at spinning a good, old-fashioned yarn.

In "Spearhead," he doesn't venture far from what he does best. Again, he returns to World War II, but he follows men on the ground rather than in the skies. And, again, he finds a hidden hero worthy of highlighting. This time, it's Clarence Smoyer, a gunner from a working-class



This cover image released by Ballantine shows "Spearhead: An American Tank Gunner, His Enemy, and a Collision of Lives in World War II," by Adam Makos.

**Associated Press** family in industrial Pennsylvania.

We follow Smoyer and the

U.S. Army's 3rd Armored Division's Easy Company across the battlefields of Germany in 1944. In his third book, though, rather than speeding through the narrative's twists and turns with nary a bump in the road, Makos regales readers with every detail of every firefight. For a World War II aficionado, it will read like a dream, but to the average reader, it gets to be a bit tedious.

That said, Makos' writing remains strong and dramatic with passages like "The bark of German tank guns knifed the woods" and "As if the Germans had been listening, they suddenly cut their power. The hot engine hissed, then went silent."



# Crazy Fish Monday at BUGALOE







### Join Bugaloe for Crazy Fish Mondays!

Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is perfectly located between the Riu Palace Hotel and Hilton Resort on the famous Palm Pier with stunning 360" views of the crystal clear ocean. Open daily from 7.30am till midnight, mondays are known as Crazy Fish Mondays for the delicious fresh fish dishes the chef at Bugaloe serves up.

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## In Cantonese opera, Trump finds his twin brother in China

#### **Associated Press**

HONG KONG (AP) — With the blond wig and red tie, the star of the Cantonese opera in Hong Kong may look familiar.

The Chinese actor and singer has the lead role in "Trump on Show," a four-day comedic opera reimagining the U.S. president's personal life and his fictional twin brother who lives in China.

The three-hour opera opens with America's first family moving into the White House, where Trump's daughter Ivanka discovers an old suitcase. Inside she finds an English version of "The Little Red Book." which details ideas on class struggle by the founding chairman of modern communist China.

In the show, Donald Trump goes to Ching and meets Mao and Zhou En-lai, the first premier of communist China. Trump also receives



In this March 1, 2019, file photo, Hong Kong actors Chan Hungchun, right, and Lung Koon-tin, dressed as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump, pose during a press conference to promote their upcoming Chinese opera "Trump on Show" in Hong Kong.

a visit from North Korean show simply uses current leader Kim Jong Un in the

Li Kui-Ming, a 64-year-old feng shui master turned Cantonese opera playwright, explains that his 34th opera piece does not aim to focus on serious international politics. Rather, the

**Associated Press** 

political characters to grab the audience's attention.

"It could definitely draw people's attention if the play is about popular political figures due to their popularity and influence. I hope this opera will get my ideas across to the audience," he said.

He hopes that one day, "Trump on Show" could even be performed at the White House or in Pyongyang for Kim Jong Un.

"This is definitely our dream," Li said.

The opera runs until Monday at the Sunbeam Theatre, one of Hong Kong's long-established traditional Cantonese opera venues, created in 1972.

"This opera has to be performed in Cantonese, but of course there will be some English in it," said Loong Koon-tin, a Cantonese actor with more than 40 years of stage experience, who plays Trump, "I will certainly portray Trump's special characteristics. I will wear a red tie and suit, with a blond hair wig and golden eyebrows. Apart from the appearance, I will also imitate the way he talks as well as his body language." Roger Chan, a Cantonese

actor who plays Kim, said they did a lot of research on the North Korean leader. "We try to get to know him through daily news reports," he said.

"I think the theme is very fresh, original and unimaginable because it must be difficult to use traditional Cantonese opera elements and performing methods to perform and interpret the role of these modern worldleading characters," said Chan Chi-kai, who came to see the show as a loyal fan of the playwright.

Another audience member, Justin Lee, came all the way from Shanghai.

"With the recent tense re lationship between China and America due to the trade war, I want to watch this show and see how the playwright depicts Donald Trump, and hope the show will bring on new ideas to improve the U.S.-China relationship," he said.

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